



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



St. Marys River, MI

Project Features

- One of Great Lakes connecting channels; 63 miles long, flowing southeast between the State of Michigan and the Province of Ontario, Canada from the eastern end of Lake Superior into the northern end of Lake Huron.
- Authorization: River & Harbor Acts of 11 Jul 1870, 5 Aug 1886, 13 Jul 1892, 13 Jun 1902, 2 Mar 1905, 3 Mar 1907, Mar 1909, 25 Jul 1912, 4 Mar 1915, 22 Sep 1922, 21 Jan 1927, 3 Jul 1930, 26 Jun 1934, 30 Aug 1935, 7 Mar 1942, 15 Jun 1943, 2 Mar 1945, 24 Jul 1946, 21 Mar 1956, 9 Jul 1956.
- Deep draft commercial channel.
- Project depths varying from 27.5 to 29.0 feet in the St. Marys River, Lake Superior, and Lake Huron approaches.
- A total of 75 miles of federally maintained deep draft channels.
- Project also operates two locks and two canals which handle over 80M tons of cargo annually and a hydropower plant of 20,000 kilowatt capacity.
- Major stakeholders include U.S. Coast Guard, Lake Carriers' Association, MCM Marine, Purvis Marine Ltd., Gardiner Marine Ltd., Kemp Coal Dock, Algoma Steel, Great Lakes Power, and nearly all Great Lakes shipping interests.



Project Needs

- Requires periodic maintenance dredging (on a 4 to 6 year cycle) of approx. 100,000 cy.
- Obstruction removal is required in hard bottom channels on an annual basis.
- The Corps is developing a six-year plan to re-capitalize and modernize the existing infrastructure of the locks to provide reliable infrastructure through the year 2035. The purpose is to improve the efficiency of lock operations and reduce the risks of downtime and vessel delays. A major part of this effort will focus on the Poe and MacArthur Locks, but other infrastructure at the facility is also part of the plan. Works included in the recapitalization: replacing the Poe Lock's hydraulics, fabricating new gates for the Poe Lock, and many miscellaneous improvements and upgrades to the facility.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

- Significant loss of jobs locally, regionally and internationally.
- Light loading; loss of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth results in increased transportation costs of between \$3.9M and \$13.3M annually.
- Key component of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway navigation system.
- Disruption of service would have catastrophic maritime and economic impacts.

Transportation Importance

- Only connecting channel between Lake Superior and the lower Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway.
- The St. Mary's Falls Canal and Locks provide for vessel passage around the 21-foot drop of the river over the falls at Sault Ste. Marie, MI.
- This canal serves both domestic and foreign flag vessels transiting the Great Lakes.

➤ Commodities transported through these channels include taconite, coal, limestone, petroleum and petroleum products, chemicals and related products, primary manufactured goods, food and farm products, and manufactured equipment, machinery, and machine products.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, 2008 and 2009 St. Marys River, MI - Project Needs and President's Budget (\$1,000)

| Work Package | FY07 Need | FY07 Work Plan | FY08 Need | FY08 Budget | FY09 Need | FY09 Budget* |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Lock Operations | 5,377 | 5,377 | 4,844 | 4,844 | 5,135 | |
| Lock Maintenance | 6,572 | 6,432 | 5,919 | 5,919 | 6,900 | |
| Project Condition Surveys | 2,242 | 2,242 | 2,078 | 2,078 | 2,200 | |
| Strike Removal | 2,320 | 2,320 | 2,390 | 2,390 | 2,533 | |
| Develop Economic Models | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 100 | |
| Soo Locks Recapitalization | | | | | | |
| Misc. Poe Lock repairs/upgrades | 1,074 | 1,074 | 0 | 0 | 1,127 | |
| Replace Poe Lock hydraulics | 0 | 0 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | |
| Initiate Fabrication of New Poe gates | 0 | 0 | 2,975 | 0 | 0 | |
| Stop Logs | 1,682 | 0 | 3,352 | 2,975 | 3,659 | |
| Rock Cut Repair Design | 0 | 0 | 300 | 300 | 0 | |
| Rock Cut Repairs | | | | | 1,200 | |
| Extend Poe West Nose Pier Design | | | 100 | 0 | 75 | |
| Extend Poe West Nose Pier | | | | | 3,000 | |
| Other Business Lines | | | | | | |
| Recreation: Visitors Center | 506 | 506 | 680 | 336 | 721 | |
| Hydropower | 1,829 | 1,024 | 3,212 | 1,057 | 3,405 | |
| Environmental Stewardship | 200 | 152 | 100 | 100 | 125 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 21,802 | 19,127 | 28,050 | 21,999 | 31,780 | |

* FY09 President's Budget will be available in February 2008